

REMARKS

This response is offered in reply to the office action of January 3, 2002. A petition and fee for a three month time extension are enclosed. Applicants have renumbered original claims 12 and 13 as claims 11 and 12.

In paragraph 1 of the office action, claims 3 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph. Applicants have amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the Section 112 rejection. Reconsideration is requested.

In paragraph 2 of the office action, claims 1, 2, and 5 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) in view of the Blanton '120 patent.

This rejection is believed to be in error. In particular, the examiner incorrectly refers in the rejection to the fuel pressure regulator 26 of the Blanton '120 patent. In contrast, the Blanton patent refers to the fuel pressure damper 40. Fuel pressure damper 40 is vented via port 48 to the intake manifold of the internal combustion engine contrary to Applicants' pending claims 1 and 2. Blanton does not disclose the quick connect fitting formed integrally with the metallic damper body as set forth in claim 5.

Reconsideration is requested.

In paragraph 3 of the office action, claim 12 (renumbered) is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) in view of the Oglesby '486 patent.

This rejection is believed to be in error. In particular, the examiner refers to element 54 in Figure 5 of the '486 patent. However, this element 54 is a comparator device that does not disclose Applicants' claimed method of making a fuel pulse damper.

Reconsideration is requested.

Applicants have added new claim 13 which is a combination of original claims 1 and 4.

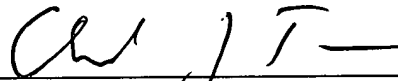
Applicants enclose an IDS listing patents which Applicants ask the examiner to consider.

12

page 8 - USSN 09/823 925

Applicants request allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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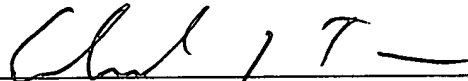
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail under 37 CFR 1.8 in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 2, 2002.



Edward J. Timmer

17